

The Washington Connection

ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTANTS
WASHINGTON D.C. CHAPTER



Issue 2 • October 2007

In This Issue

President's Message	2
Luncheon Speaker Review: Danny Werfel	3
Note From the Editor	5
Luncheon Series Speaker: Sallyanne Harper	6
AGA D.C. Liaisons FREE Luncheon	7
Inside the Black Box	9-10
Member Services: Our Newest Members	11
Save the Date: Spring Conferences	11
Mentor Program: Now Open to All!	12
Who is Leon Fleischer?	13
Community Service Activities	14
Want to Make a Difference?	15
FREE CGFM Training	16
Awards Committee Updates	18
October Calendar of Events	19
2007-2008 Calendar of Events	20
Officers and Directors	21

October Days!

AGA D.C. LIAISONS

FREE LUNCHEON

October 25, 2007 (Noon until 1:00 pm)

JERRY MURPHY

[Read More](#)

COME HEAR JERRY MURPHY, FORMER TREASURY
FISCAL ASSISTANT SECRETARY, TELL HIS STORY

LUNCHEON SERIES

OCTOBER 17, 2007 (11:30 a.m. - 1:30 pm)

Members \$25
Non-Members \$30



SALLYANNE HARPER

"We are delighted to welcome Sallyanne Harper, Chief Administrative Officer at the Government Accountability Office, as our luncheon speaker on October 17. Sallyanne, a longtime member of the DC Chapter, will discuss several high profile transformational initiatives underway at GAO."

[read bio](#)

Zola restaurant - 800 F Street, NW - next to the International Spy Museum
(one block from the Gallery Place/Chinatown red/yellow/green line Metro)

For more details, see <http://agadc.org/mlunch2.php>

Register online at <https://secure.serve.com/AGADC/lform2.php>

SAVE THE DATE

Spring Conference

WEDNESDAY, MAY 7, 2008

THURSDAY, MAY 8, 2008

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Announcements

The Washington, D.C. Chapter of AGA is
Sponsoring 2 Hours of Free CPE for its Members!

[Read More](#)

Click here to sign up to get newsletter and meeting notices automatically
e-mailed <http://agadc.org/mlistsubscribe.php>

President's Message

by Dan Christovich,



It Was One of Those Fine October Days

*It was one of those fine October days
Free from summer's heat and haze
But not yet gripped by autumn chill.*

*It was one of those fine October days
When the sky's so clear
You can see the moon
Through the atmosphere
At midday.*

*It was one of those fine October days
When the trees sport yellow and red
Instead of everyday summer green.*

*It was one of those fine October days
When one draws a deep breath
And is grateful
To be resident on Earth.*

by Retired U.S. Foreign Officer, Richard Green

The author of this poem, Richard Greene, is a retired Foreign Service Officer. More of his poetry can be found on his website, <http://www.greenepage.net>.

Can you believe that it is October? Does the season have you asking "already" or "finally"? I guess our response is a matter of perspective. Regardless of your situation, I hope this Newsletter finds you healthy and living life to its fullest.

I could not be more proud of the start we have had to our chapter year. Although I can't say we have yet hit our full stride, our September activities certainly met our goals for providing quality programs to you and the turnout was excellent. You can catch a recap of everything you missed, and make plans for October by checking out the rest of the newsletter and visiting www.agadc.org. I think you will find plenty of things to keep you busy. Please remember to pass on the information to your colleagues throughout the federal financial management community.

I also want to call your attention to a topic that bears considerable attention. Part of our responsibility as members of AGA and the general financial management community is to recognize and praise those among us who have achieved high levels of success in our profession. The deadline for several important AGA awards is right around the corner, October 26, 2007. Please check out the information at our website and submit your nominations to our awards committee Chairs Jeff Green and Pat Wensel as soon as you can. <http://www.agacgfm.org/membership/awards/>

As always, I want to thank our Chapter Executive Committee for all the tireless volunteer work they do to keep everything running smoothly, and I want to thank all our sponsors for their support of our programs.

If you have any suggestions, comments or questions please call me or email me. All feedback is welcome.

I wish you fine October days,

Dan Christovich

Dan Christovich

AGA D.C. Chapter September 2007 Luncheon Topic Review



The September luncheon series speaker was Mr. Danny Werfel, Deputy and Acting Controller of the Office of Federal Financial Management (OFFM) for the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). Mr. Werfel focused on the topic of Smarter Accountability and shared his plan for achieving a more comprehensive accounting interface for OMB.

Opening Quote:

David Walker 3/1/07 "...we should consider the need for further revisions to the current federal financial reporting model to recognize the unique needs of the federal government, which would affect both consolidated and agency financial reporting."

Management Objectives:

- Public reporting (provide transparency into government finances including sustainability of operations and effectiveness of programs)
- Internal Controls (facilitate process, technology and human capital improvements to ensure Internal Controls and sound accounting practices)
- Decision Support (provide federal leaders with financial information to help improve management decisions to drive better stewardship outcomes, e.g., reduce fraud, error and waste)

Summary:

Public reporting - audited financial reports are not (yet) used to inform policy decisions, and the PAR does not have a definite audience. Preparation of the PAR instills a discipline that makes the preparer's aware of their own objectives, but it also is a public report. Vision for improvement: Top-Down Reporting (start at Governmentwide Financial Report and support with agency reports), Key national indicators (e.g. health, environment, education, workforce, safety, financial sustainability), and Web-based (integrated, electronic, interactive on the web).

Web example: Start with Governmentwide page with key areas, click on Health, get Health care cost trends from HHS, click again to get HHS strategic goals, click to get HHS program goals, click again to get financial report for HHS programs. Much broader than financial management, fits into a larger picture to become relevant to the general public.

Internal Controls - do current requirements yield an Internal Controls framework that is fully aligned with federal financial management risks? Do agency Internal Controls efforts ensure non-duplication of effort and maximize effectiveness of QA activities (or are they stove pipes)? Need a more rational, risk-based and balanced approach to investing financial management resources; a new framework to focus on risks and be integrated across different actors within the agency. Areas include IT security, ADA violations, asset management, acquisition, travel, fraud and error. CFO pushes this through Financial Reporting, but CFO should instead be directly involved in all areas.

Decision Support - Are current financial reports used for management decision making? Does the preparation of such reports facilitate the availability of information (e.g. cost data) that can be used to generate relevant and effective management reports or reporting tools? Should required report items serve both stewardship and decision-making? Do audit standards need to be adjusted to balance precision and management use? Can CFOs identify business risks within the agency; how can we facilitate cost accounting and other business intelligence tools to help manage risks (need knowledge of risks, data capture mechanisms and reporting)?

Overview:

According to Mr. Werfel, these three elements are building blocks for new vision of federal financial management. By staying focused on these elements, he believes OMB can provide more comprehensive reporting that is subject to audit, mitigating the risk that the results will be manipulated for political reasons.

It was a very informative speech a great way to kick of the year.

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Note From the Editor:



First off, let me say thank you for all those who submitted articles - there is a lot of knowledge in this group that I am fortunate enough to review and publish. Our team took a lot of time to produce a high quality newsletter notifying AGA D.C. members of

Chapter and National events, services, and the people supporting this professional organization. And, if you are not already a member, we encourage you to join AGA D.C. Chapter and enjoy the many benefits it offers, in particular the high quality luncheon series, learning opportunities, and conferences.

This year we decided to install a "Letters to the Editor" page in The Washington Connection, allowing members of the AGA D.C. Chapter to voice their opinions on any matters of concern to AGA D.C. Chapter. As a rule, we will only publish signed letters and reserve the right to crop submissions for the sake of space. Before submitting a letter/comment to the editor, please consider the following:

- Relate your issue to a recent chapter event or article
- Keep submissions short and concise
- State your main point at the beginning
- If applicable, please include the article title and author you are addressing
- Send articles to Emily.asmus@gt.com with "Letter to the Editor" in the subject line

As a general rule, if you have something to say, say it! We also encourage you to submit your suggestions, comments, or questions about the AGA D.C. Newsletter. We have made some significant changes to the layout and would love to know what you think. After all, this is your newsletter, the strength of this page and general publication depends on your comments.

*"But words are things, and a small drop of ink,
Falling, like dew, upon a thought produces
That which makes thousands,
Perhaps millions think."*

Lord George Gordon BYRON
English poet (1788-1824)

Thank you for your words,

Emily Asmus

Emily Asmus
AGA D.C. Chapter Newsletter Editor

Newsletter Team

Emily Asmus, Editor

Leon Fleisher, Assistant Editor

Erwin Solbach, Graphics

Luncheon Series Speaker: Sallyanne Harper



*Sallyanne Harper
Chief Administrative Officer
U.S. Government Accountability Office*

Sallyanne Harper is currently the Chief Financial Officer (CFO) and Chief Administrative Officer for the U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO). In her current capacity, Ms. Harper is responsible for the full range of financial, IT, human capital and knowledge services functions in support of the GAO, a legislative branch accountability agency that serves the Congress and the American people.

Prior to coming to GAO in January 2000, Ms. Harper served as Chief Financial Officer of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). At EPA, she was responsible for all aspects of EPA's strategic planning, financial management and reporting, budgeting and financial systems. She had previously served as deputy CFO, head of management and administration, including IT, and finance director.

Ms. Harper graduated from LaSalle University, Magna Cum Laude with a BA in psychology and received her MBA in finance and investments from the George Washington University. Ms. Harper was awarded an honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters from LaSalle University. She is a graduate of the Harvard University John F. Kennedy School of Government's Senior Managers in Government program.

Ms. Harper is a Fellow of the National Academy of Public Administration.

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AGA D.C. LIAISONS

OCTOBER 25TH **FREE** LUNCHEON

COME HEAR JERRY MURPHY, FORMER TREASURY FISCAL ASSISTANT SECRETARY, TELL HIS STORY

Our twice-a-year liaison luncheons are back! The Membership Team took a lot of care and time to thoughtfully craft content for another luncheon event and is pleased to invite you to the Fall 2007 Liaison Luncheon on Thursday, October 25, 2007, 12:00 pm. Come be the first to hear Jerry Murphy, former Treasury Fiscal Assistant Secretary, speak about his personal experience with the AGA D.C. Chapter mentoring program and the potential power the program holds for each of us.

Jerry will share his story on how AGA transformed him from a new accountant, without management experience, to a strong and proficient thought leader who was sought-after for professional advancement and AGA honors. We will then introduce you to a few of our newest mentors-people who are ready to support your career and help bring you to the next level in your professional development. Care to join us?

As always, we will have a delicious, free luncheon at the Metro-friendly meeting spot of Veterans Affairs, located at McPherson Square. Please tell Ruthie Apelt, AGA D.C. Chapter Assistant Membership Director, you'll be coming. See you at Noon!

WHEN: Thursday, October 25, 2007, Noon until 1:00 p.m.

WHERE: The Department of Veterans Affairs
 810 Vermont Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20420, Rm 430
 (By Metro: Blue/Orange Line to McPherson Square)

RSVP: Ruth Apelt Ruth.Apelt@thomson.com
 Deadline is Tuesday, October 23, 2007, 5:00 pm

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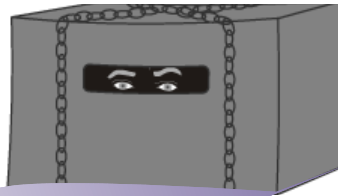
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Inside the Black Box

by Simcha Kuritzky, CGFM CPA



General Fund Receipts: Custodial and Non-Custodial

Introduction

Sometimes federal agencies act as agents, making a number of special types of deposits that they are not allowed to keep, which ultimately go into the Treasury's General Fund (GF). Since the agencies know how and why these were collected, Treasury relies on such agencies to report the revenue. However, since the revenue does not belong to the agencies, they must also report a contra-revenue and declare to Treasury the type of deposit being made by assigning the proper Treasury Account Fund Symbol for the receipts. And while the FAST book includes 19 major classes of General Fund Receipts, there are two main models: Custodial and Non-Custodial.

Two Models

Starting in FY2008, there are two models for General Fund Receipts. Some of these collections are custodial, such as taxes or interest revenue. These are reported on the Statement of Custodial Activity (SCA) if they are material and a custodial footnote if they are not material. Others are reported on the Statement of Net Cost (SNC), such as exchange revenues that legally must be transferred to the GF or collections of receivable associated with an old, closed year fund. Unusual items, such as sales of property, are reported directly on the Statement of Changes in Net Position (SCNP). The accounting treatment is different for the SCA transactions versus the SNC and SCNP transactions.

Entries

The latest Standard General Ledger Transaction listing greatly increased the number of transactions since each debit/credit pair has its own Transaction ID. This ID helps clarify the entries but does not support a totally operational cataloguing process since many transactions are improperly cross-referenced. With the transaction ID, we can trace the lifecycle of a transaction. There are five main events in the GF Receipts lifecycle: accrue, collect accrual, collect without accrual, collect and transfer, and withdrawal. The collection without accrual entry is the same as the accrual and collection of accrual entries combined, which means that, on collection, one

could ignore the collect accrual entries and simply post the collect without accrual entry after reversing any accrual. The funds can be taken away in one of two ways: it can be transferred on the SF-224 (either to another agency or to another fund controlled by the custodial agency) at the time it is collected, or withdrawn at yearend. While, theoretically, one could transfer a collection that had originally been accrued, or transfer the funds some time after the collection took place, the SGL guidance does not list those entries. There is, however, one exception. There are separate entries for the custodial and non-custodial models. The basic entries are shown in the following table, and the specific accounts are described in the next section.

	Custodial Accounting Model			Non-Custodial Accounting Model		
	Entry	Debit	Credit	Entry	Debit	Credit
Accrue	C402 C404	Receivable 5991	Revenue 2980	C420 C405	Receivable 5994	Revenue 2985
Collect Accrual	C143 D584 D586	1010 5990 5801	Receivable 5991 5800	C143 D585	1010 5993	Receivable 5994

Collect w/o Accrual	C141 C142	1010 5990	Revenue 2980	C145 C147	1010 5993	Revenue 2985
Collect and Transfer	C141 A210	1010 5998	Revenue 1010			
Withdraw	F124	2980	1010	F124	2985	1010

In this table, entry C143 is the only entry for collecting accruals, but the receivable accounts listed agree with the custodial model and not the non-custodial model. In this example, the SGL Board should either add account 1320 to entry C143, or add a new entry exclusively for the non-custodial model. Entry D586 is only used for tax entries. Otherwise, when more than one entry is listed for an event, all are posted. Cash is posted twice for the Collect and Transfer entry because it has to be reported two separate ways on the SF-224 Statement of Transactions. This transfer is only shown for the custodial accounting model.

Accounts

Below is a list of the valid Receivable and Revenue accounts, and which model they are used with. Some revenue accounts appear only on the receivable entry and others only on the collection entry.

Number	Name	Custod.	Non-C
	Receivables:		
1310	Accounts Receivable	Yes	Yes
1320	Employment Benefit Contributions Receivable	No	Accrual
1325	Taxes Receivable	Yes	No
1340	Interest Receivable	Yes	Yes
1360	Penalties, Fines, and Administrative Fees Receivable	Yes	Yes
	Revenues:		
5100	Revenue From Goods Sold	No	Yes
5200	Revenue From Services Provided	No	Yes
5310	Interest Revenue – Other	Yes	Yes
5311	Interest Revenue - Investments	Yes	Yes
5312	Interest Revenue – Loans Receivable/Uninvested Funds	Yes	Yes
5320	Penalties, Fines, and Administrative Fees Revenue	Yes	Yes
5400	Benefit Program Revenue	No	Accrual
5500	Insurance and Guarantee Premium Revenue	No	Accrual
5600	Donated Revenue - Financial Resources	Accrual	No
5775	Nonbudgetary Financing Sources Transferred In	No	Accrual
5790	Other Financing Sources	No	Collect
5795	Seigniorage	No	Collect
5800	Tax Revenue Collected	Collect	No
5801	Tax Revenue Accrual Adjustment	Accrual	No
5900	Other Revenue	Yes	Yes

In the Custodial model, only one revenue account changes based on whether it is accrued or collected. For taxes, 5800 is used on collection and 5801 for accruals, which necessitates an extra entry (D586) when collecting an accrual. The only difference between the custodial and non-custodial receivable accounts is that 1325 is only custodial and 1320 is only non-custodial. There are several differences between the custodial and non-custodial revenue accounts, as well as the accrual and collected entries for both custodial and non-custodial revenue. While it is reasonable that some revenues might never be accrued, I suspect the revenues that show up only as accruals were inadvertently left off of the collection entries.

Conclusion

The new non-custodial GF receipts model is a step in the right direction, as it directly maps specific liabilities and contra-revenues to the Statement of Custodial Activity, while allowing a parallel entry to be made for similar activity that does not appear on the SCA.

Comments and critiques, as well as specific questions or suggestions for future topics, are always welcome. Send them to Simcha.Kuritzky@CGIFederal.com, and not to the AGA.

Simcha Kuritzky
Simcha Kuritzky, CGFM CPA

This column is provided as part of a free exchange of ideas in federal accounting, and is not reviewed substantively before publication.

Connect to the World of Government



AGA serves government accountability professionals by providing quality education, fostering professional development and certification, and supporting standards and research to advance government accountability.

Click on the link below to view a short AGA video:
<http://www.agacgfm.org/downloads/agaweb.wmv>

Member Services

Now that we have had our Kick-off Happy Hour, the Member Services events are in full swing and we are looking forward to the upcoming events. This month we will be attending the **Mount Vernon Wine Festival on October 5th, 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.** Tickets are \$25 and are available on Ticketmaster. Please let Caitlin Holmes (Caitlin.b.holmes@us.pwc.com) know if you will be attending as the Chapter will purchase Fruit and Cheese baskets for everyone and we need an accurate headcount.

Additionally, we will have our Annual Oktoberfest Celebration Thursday, October 25 at 7:00 p.m. at Old Europe in Georgetown. Please keep an eye out for more details as we get closer to the event. We hope to see you there!

Please welcome our newest AGA-DC members!

Mr. Baraka M. Ibrahim
 Ms. Byong Susie Lee
 Ms. Patsy S. Locke
 Mr. Joseph M. Peter
 Ms. Dawn M. Riddle
 Mr. Kenneth L. Robinson
 Mrs. Jill B. Tegethoff, CGFM, CPA
 Mr. Nasser Thalji
 Mr. Derek W. Thomas, CPA
 Mrs. Ginny G. Wagner
 Mr. Hasani K. Widemond
 Mrs. Candace M. Cannon
 Mr. Martin E. Eckes
 Mr. Jonathan D. Ellsworth
 Mr. Dan Franceschini, CPA

Ms. Parisa Hamzesh, CPA
 Ms. Shona J. Mollison
 Mr. Kenneth Naugle
 Ms. Jennifer Nielsen
 Ms. Myung Joon Park
 Ms. Morgan A. Richard
 Mr. Dennis S. Schindel
 Mr. Duncan CM Smith
 Mr. Philip Smith
 Ms. Sahra I. Torres-Rivera, CPA
 Mr. Raymond Vicks, Jr., CPA
 Mr. Clarence Crawford
 Mr. Patrick Maloy

SAVE THE DATE Spring Conference

The Association of Government Accountants Washington, D.C. Chapter will be hosting its annual spring conference on May 7 and 8, 2008. This 2-day conference will address emerging issues related to federal financial management and systems.

Dates: Wednesday, May 7 and Thursday, May 8, 2008

Time: 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Location: Ronald Reagan Building

Continuing Education: 15 CPE

For more information: visit www.agadc.org.

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- AICPA Home Page

AGA D.C.'s Mentor Program: Now Open to All!

by The Membership Team-LeAnn Corcoran and Marguerite Nealon, Membership Co-Directors, and Ruth Apelt, Assistant Membership Director

Last spring the Membership Team of the AGA D.C. Chapter initiated a Mentor Program, pairing retirees with Early Career members, chapter members with five or less years of government financial management experience. Due to the enormous interest we received, we are broadening the Program to include every member who would like a mentor, regardless of their career stage. We now have an even larger pool of mentors—five people with federal government and private sector experience. Would you like a mentor...or to be a mentor? If so, read on.

About the Program

The Program serves to facilitate member's professional development and enhance government accountability skills. Mentees receive one-on-one coaching from one or more mentors. Experienced professionals and retirees contribute to the professional development of our members. Before selecting their mentor, mentees have the opportunity to meet the mentors and review their résumés. The Membership Team is the conduit for exchanging information and getting the relationship off

and running. The program is voluntary and open only to Chapter members.

Program Benefits

For mentees, benefits of the Program include opportunities to:

- Enhance core financial management competencies
- Learn how others have advanced their careers in government accountability
- Seek advice or guidance for a specific work challenge
- Discover how greater involvement in the AGA D.C. Chapter can develop or strengthen one's management and leadership skills
- Develop further networking avenues

For mentors, the benefits include opportunities to:

- Give back to the profession by sharing knowledge and wisdom
- Have a meaningful impact on an individual's career development
- Build deeper relationships with other Chapter members

Participation

To sign up for the Mentor Program, please contact Marguerite Nealon wnealon01@aol.com or LeAnn Corcoran lcorcoran@savantage.net.

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Who is Leon Fleischer?

Name:

Leon Fleischer, CGFM



Leon Fleischer is a Senior Accountant in the Office of the Chief Financial Officer at the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) in Washington D.C. Leon is in the Accountability Liaison & Quality Assurance Branch which is responsible for oversight of the agency financial reporting and is a leader in credit reform accounting. Leon joined the SBA in July 2006.

Prior to his SBA, Leon worked at the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission in Financial Reporting. Leon graduated cum laude from the State University of Albany at New York in 1991 with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Accounting. He obtained the CGFM certification in March 2007.

How long have you been a member of AGA?

I joined AGA in May 2002. I served on the Montgomery Chapter Board for several years.

What has been your most rewarding achievement in your career?

I have been very fortunate in my government career and have had many great experiences. I have been able to work at several government agencies and learn the different aspects of each agency. One rewarding achievement was passing the CGFM exam, that was a great feeling. In my government career, I worked on credit reform accounting at both the U.S. Department of Education and SBA. Credit reform is a very complicated area, so working at both Education and SBA, and directly applying my CGFM knowledge, allowed me to become a technical expert in that area.

How has AGA helped you with your career?

AGA gave me access to education, networking, CGFM certification, and publications that have helped me in my career; I enjoy being around and interacting with fellow professionals who share my interests.

What advice do you have for someone thinking about joining AGA?

Join and get involved! You will meet great people who can provide advice and mentoring to help you in your career. If you join, then consider volunteering which will add to your experience and help develop your leadership skills while supporting those who need your support.

What is the best thing about working in government service?

By working in the government, you are part of an organization that has a mission to help people and improve the welfare of the nation-what could be a more noble goal?

What has been the biggest obstacle in getting where you are today?

It is difficult to manage paper work and going through many levels to accomplish tasks. However, in the long run there are reasons for that control and eventually it all works out.

What is your favorite hobby or outside activity?

I love basketball, running, biking, and of course spending time with my kids. Family is number one for me, so anytime I can mix sports activity with family is great.

What is your favorite flavor of ice cream?

Coffee

Anything else you would like to highlight?

I am fortunate to have worked with incredible professionals throughout the government and encourage young people to consider working for the government.

What is your favorite word?

My favorite word is "respect." Treating one another with respect goes a long way.

Leon Fleischer

Leon Fleischer, CGFM

Community Service

We are looking forward to another exciting year of AGA D.C. community service.

We tried to develop programs that will enhance and welcome the participation of the AGA D.C. members in community service activities.

Thank you for your participation in the "Baby Food Challenge." Your support helped stock the shelves of the Capital Area Food Bank.

This month we want to encourage your participation in the Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS) walk. The ALS Association DC/MD/VA Chapter's walk is part of a national effort to support local patient services and nationally directed research to find a cure for ALS, commonly known as "Lou Gehrig's Disease." For more information about this disease, please visit the ALS website, <http://www.alsinfo.org>.

This year's walk starts at Constitution Gardens, Washington D.C., on October 21, 2007. The Walk begins at 10:00 a.m., with registration starting at 9:00 a.m. The walk is approximately three miles, but you don't even have to walk to support the cause, donations of time or money are always accepted. The AGA D.C. Chapter will walk as members of "Joan's Wayward Walker's" led by our captain, Andy Kilgore. T- Shirts will be provided so please let us now if you are interested in participating.

Last year we raised \$1,687 for ALS and 12 members of the AGA D.C. Chapter participated in the walk. We hope to double our participation and contribution for this year, please help us reach our goal. Even if you can't walk you can still donate!

Community Service Activities 2007-2008

October -	Walk to D'feet ALS
November-	Project Harvest
December -	Toys-for-Tots
January -	Make-A-Wish Foundation
February -	Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA)
March-	Dress for Success Suit Drive
April D.C. -	Habitat for Humanity (Partnering with other metro chapters)
May -	Eyeglass Collection for Lions Club & Cell Phone collection Verizon Wireless
June -	So Others Might Eat
July -	Boy's and Girl's Club (Baseball Outing)
August -	TBD

Please contact Lloyd A. Farmer 703-516-9134 ext 11, Tonya Allen Shaw 202-720-5026 or AnnMarie Walker 202 273-5549 if you are interested in supporting the ALS walk.

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Want to Make a Difference?

Consider a Career in Government Financial Management

Are you, or someone from your chapter planning to attend a career fair, or an event for college students? AGA now has an eye-catching brochure that offers information about government financial management careers and answers questions for aspiring government financial managers regarding the qualifications and skills needed to get started. It also includes a bookmark for students that directs them to the Tomorrow's Professionals website for more information. To order free copies of the brochure, please submit the collateral order form found in the Members Only section or contact Jessica Jones.

Early Career Members

Free Certified Government Financial Manager (CGFM) Training

by Doug Bennett AGA D.C. CGFM Coordinator and Audrey Duchesne AGAD.C. CGFM Assistant Coordinator

AGA D.C. Chapter will once again provide this six-day comprehensive training program to Early Career members to help them prepare for and successfully complete the 3-part CGFM examination.

The program, offered AT NO COST to qualified enrollees, will address the three key components of the CGFM examination: (1) the governmental environment; (2) government accounting, financial reporting, and budgeting; and (3) government financial management and control. The program's four key eligibility criteria include:

- Membership in the DC, Northern Virginia or Montgomery/Prince George's County chapter of AGA (you can join now to meet this requirement)

- Preference given to those with 5 or fewer years of professional experience
- Obtaining your supervisor's approval
- Committing to take the 3-part CGFM examination within one year of the training

This program provides a wonderful opportunity for our members in the early stage of their careers, dramatically increasing their knowledge of government financial management. The training helps prepare participants for their CGFM, a certificate critically important to professional development in government accounting and highly valued by supporting business organizations, clients, and employers.

We are currently working out the scheduling details but are tentatively planning on holding the training in the January/February 2008 time frame. More details will be provided as the schedule comes together.

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Awards Committee Updates

Part of our responsibility as members of AGA and the general financial management community is to recognize and praise those among us who have achieved high levels of success in our profession. The AGA D.C. Chapter Awards Committee is pleased to announce the opportunity to recognize your distinguished colleagues at both the Chapter and National Level of AGA. The deadline for several important AGA awards nominations is October 26, 2007.

Please be thinking about qualified candidates that you would like to nominate, there is just one short month left until these nominations are due. The nearest awards nominations deadlines are listed below with links to awards descriptions listed under the "Included Awards" column. To learn more, please visit the AGA D.C. Chapter website and submit your nominations and awards-related question to Chairs Jeff Green and Pat Wensel

<http://www.agacgfm.org/membership/awards/>

Award Group/Description	Included Awards	Deadline
AGA's State & Local Government Leadership Awards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Excellence in Government Leadership Award (Word version) • William R. Snodgrass Distinguished Leadership Award (Word version) • Distinguished Local Government Leadership Award (Word version) • Private Sector Financial Excellence Award (Word version) 	October 26, 2007
AGA's Federal Leadership Awards NOTE: These awards are presented at the annual National Leadership Conference and recognize outstanding financial leaders in the federal government.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Distinguished Federal Leadership Award (Word version) • Elmer Staats Award (Word version) • Andy Barr Award (Word version) 	October 26, 2007
Look for AGA National and AGA D.C. Chapter Awards announcements for Spring 2008!		

The Awards Process

AGA National and the AGA D.C. Chapter seeks highly skilled candidates for award nomination. Please submit all nominations to the Awards Committee, responsible for making recipient recommendations to the AGA D.C. Chapter Board for final consideration. The Board chooses the nominees for AGA D.C. Chapter awards and recommends recipients for AGA National. Applicants are informed of the results of their nomination once the awardees list is finalized.

October 2007 Calendar of Events

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17 Monthly Meeting Zola Lunch - Sallyanne Harper	18	19	20
21	22	23 RSVP Deadline for FREE Liaison Luncheon	24	25 AGA D.C. Liaison Luncheon Noon - 1:00pm	26 AGA D.C. Awards Nomination Deadline	27
28	29	30	31			

* Luncheon speakers will be confirmed and finalized in the next month. Topics will relate to financial management and PMA initiatives. The location is Zola's restaurant from 11:30 - 2:00 with one hour CPE.

Calendar of Events — 2007/2008 Program Year

Month	Luncheons*	Community Service	Member Service	Early Careers and Education	Membership	Annual Spring Conference
September	Zola Lunch - 9/19 Danny Werfel	Baby Food Challenge	Zaytina on Wednesday, September 5th from 4pm - 6pm for Happy Hour	Audio Conference (AC) - 9/20 - Making the Transition to Management: What it takes to succeed		
October	Zola Lunch - 10/17 TBD - Sallyanne Harper Topic: "Transforming the Enterprise at GAO"	Walk to D'feet ALS Association	Mount Vernon - 10/5 6pm - 9pm or with NOVAGA on Oct 7 from 6-9 pm Old Europe - 10/25 Oktoberfest	10/17 Details TBD	Membership Luncheon - Jerry Murphy, Former Treasury Fiscal Asst. Secretary; 10/25/07, Noon until 1:00 p.m.; Veterans Affairs	
November	NO LUNCH	Collect non-perishable food items at monthly luncheon - Project Harvest	(Tentative) 11/14	AC - 12/12 - Anatomy of Fraud: Case Examples of Greed, Collusion, and Override of Controls		
December	Zola Lunch - 12/5 William Campbell, CFO, Amtrak	Collect toys for needy children at monthly luncheon U.S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots Program	Holiday Party TBD			
January		Collect spare change at monthly luncheon Make-A-Wish Foundation	AGA Dinner Date TBD	1/30 Details TBD		
February		Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA)	Capitals Game (Partner with NOVA) TBD	AC - 2/6 - Internal Controls		
March		Dress for Success Suit Drive	Museum Tour TBD			
April		Habitat for Humanity	Virginia Wine Tour - 4/19 (Partner with NOVA)	4/23 Details TBD		
May		Eyeglass Collection for Lions Club & Cell Phone collection Verizon Wireless	Tidal Basin - 5/18 Paddle Boats on the Tidal Basin and picnic			Spring Conference May 7 and 8, 2008 - Ronald Reagan Building
June		So Others Might Eat	Nationals Game TBD			
July		Boy's and Girl's Club (Baseball Outing)				

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